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MATA HARI'S DUPE HELPED REDS KILL AGENTS

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WASHINGTON — Intelligence experts suspect that Soviet agents executed several key CIA informants after their covers were blown by a U.S. Marine accused of trading secrets for sex. The Post has learned.

They said the Marine almost certainly could have gotten clues to the identities of informants because he had full access to the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, where he was a guard.

It's likely that the Marine — Sgt. Clayton Lonetree, 25 — turned over that information to the KGB, said the sources.

Lonetree, who once guarded President Reagan, was lured into spying for the Soviet Union by a "Mata Hari" female KGB agent who

seduced him, officials say.

His cooperation with the Soviet spy agency during his stint at the embassy from September 1984 to March 1986 coincides with numerous arrests and executions of top-level informants, it was learned.

The informants passed along vital intelligence on military and political activities in the Soviet Union.

Until Lonetree confessed late last month to participating in a spy ring, U.S. officials had been unable to deter-

mine how the KGB learned the identities of some of the CIA's most important "assets."

Lonetree, of St. Paul, Minn., stunned the U.S. intelligence community when he turned himself in last month.

He confessed that he helped his paramour, a secretary at the embassy, gain access to documents stored in embassy safes.

Officials said the documents contained detailed intelligence reports supplied by agents.

The reports would contain the cover names of

agents but not their real names, intelligence experts say.

Officials suspect that the Soviets were able to learn the agents' real identities from the information contained in the reports.

Lonetree is in custody at the Marine correctional facility in Quantico, Va., awaiting formal espionage charges that could lead to his execution.

His family has hired famed defense attorney William Kunstler to represent him before a military court.